A3275-2 6/6/83

TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, June 3, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 28 totaled an estimated 16.4 billion ton-miles, 0.4 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 21 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 323.0 billion ton-miles, 4.6 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended May 28 totaled 376,758 cars, 1.4 percent below 1982, but 3.6 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 2.3 percent in the South, but down 4.0 in the East and 1.6 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 12 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, loadings of lumber and wood products were up 22.3 percent, nonmetallic minerals posted a gain of 16.5 percent, and stone, clay and glass products increased by 12.3 percent. Seventeen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended May 21 totaled 45,224 cars, up 25.7 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 78,594 trailers and/or containers, 20.0 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 20 weeks of the year was 843,897 cars, 17.3 percent higher than last year, and 1,446,294 trailers and/or containers, up 12.9 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 5/28/83:

	Loadings in Week ended May 28, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	21,789	D	350	1.6	I	2,573	13.4
Other farm products	4,217	D	361	7.9	I	681	19.3
Metallic ores	20,998	D	1,529	6.8	I	282	1.4
Coal	104,537	D	10,200	8.9	I	4,044	4.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,034	I	1,066	10.7	I	51	0.5
Nonmetallic minerals	11,559	I	1,637	16.5	I	644	5.9
Grain mill products	11,842	I	452	4.0	I	491	4.3
Food and kindred products	11,809	D	2,068	14.9	I	148	1.3
Primary forest products	14,438	D	556	3.7	D	37	0.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,452	I	1,540	22.3	I	549	6.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,647	D	1,413	8.3	I	274	1.8
Chemicals and allied products	22,182	D	544	2.4	D	242	1.1
Petroleum products	4,733	D	79	1.6	D	53	1.1
Stone, clay and glass products	11,326	I	1,243	12.3	I	501	4.6
Coke	5,356	I	871	19.4	I	494	10.2
Metals and products	8,741	D	1,405	13.8	I	482	5.8
Motor vehicles and equipment	18,481	I	1,444	8.5	D	127	0.7
Waste and scrap materials	8,997	I	263	3.0	I	257	2.9
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,712	D	432	4.7	I	207	2.4
All other carloads	51,610	I	6,686	14.9	I	1,785	3.6
LCL traffic	298	D	1,466	83.1	I	27	10.0
Total Cars Loaded	376,758	D	5,201	1.4	I	13,031	3.6
Corresponding week of 1982	381,959						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (21 weeks)	7,358,315	8,004,296	D 8.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
20 weeks ended May 21	306.6	322.0	D 4.8
Week ended May 28	16.4	16.5	D 0.4
21 weeks cumulative	323.0	338.5	D 4.6

AARt-060383

BEST AVAILABLE COPY